

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
TRSE-00 /072 W
-----124891 061610Z /45

R 061146Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4613
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION BERLIN

UNCLAS HAMBURG 342

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: CDU LOSSES UNEXPECTEDLY HIGH IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN

1. ON SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 77 PERCENT OF THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN WENT TO THE POLLS TO ELECT THEIR LOCAL GOVERNING BODIES --I.E., TOWN AND COUNTY COUNCILS.
2. COMPARED TO SIMILAR ELECTIONS FOUR YEARS AGO THE CDU LOST 3.1 PERCENTAGE POINTS (NOW 50 PERCENT); THE SPD GAINED 5.5 (NOW 41 PERCENT), AND THE FDP LOST 3.5 (NOW 6.5 PERCENT). IN KIEL, THE CAPITAL OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN WHERE THE CDU HAS A ONE VOTE ABSOLUTE MAJORITY IN THE LANDTAG, THE SPD WON AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY.
3. COMMENT: BECAUSE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN IS ONE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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GERMANY'S POOREST AREAS AND HAS, ACCORDINGLY, ONE OF GERMANY'S HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, IT WAS EXPECTED THAT DISLIKE FOR THE NEAREST GOVERNMENT, THE LAND GOVERNMENT IN KIEL, WOULD EXCEED DISLIKE FOR THE SPD-FDP COALITION IN BONN AND THAT THEREFORE THE CDU WOULD SUFFER SOMEWHAT. IN FACT THE CDU LOSSES ARE LARGER THAN EXPECTED, PARTICULARLY IN THE

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN SUBURBS OF HAMBURG, A FACT WHICH
BODES ILL FOR THE CDU IN JUNE 4 HAMBURG BUERGER-
SCHAFT ELECTION. THE FDP LOSSES TOO WERE HIGHER
THAN EXPECTED. KISELYAK

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PINT, GE
To: STATE
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